Amendment and Response to Office Action mailed December 23, 2008

Submitted March 20, 2009

U.S. Application No.: 10/510,488 Attorney Docket No.: MPA-003

Page 2 of 8

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1-31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A method of supporting a urethra <u>in a female adult human</u> comprising:

providing a surgical tape comprising a first end, a second end, and a supporting zone interposed between the first end and the second end, wherein said tape is between about 8 to 20 cm in length;

introducing <u>thea</u> surgical <u>implanttape</u> into at least one incision made on an upper wall of the vagina;

inserting athe first end of the surgical implant tape behind a first side of the urethra; locating a first fixing zone of the surgical implant the first end of the surgical tape into the tissues of the retropubic space fascia without penetrating the rectus sheath; and

inserting athe second end of the surgical implanttape behind a second side of the urethra; and

locating a second fixing zone of the surgical implant the second end of the surgical tape into the tissues of the retropubic space without penetrating the rectus sheath, such that the supporting zone passes under the urethra.

33. (Currently Amended) A method of transmitting intra-abdominal pressure to the urethra comprising:

providing a first surgical tape comprising a first end and a second end, and a second surgical tape comprising a first end and a second end, wherein each of said first tape and said second tape is between about 2 to 8 cm in length;

introducing a first anchor strip the first surgical tape into at least one incision made on an upper wall of the vagina;

inserting a first portion of the first anchor stripthe first end of the first surgical tape behind a first side of the urethra;

Amendment and Response to Office Action mailed December 23, 2008

Submitted March 20, 2009

U.S. Application No.: 10/510,488 Attorney Docket No.: MPA-003

Page 3 of 8

locating a first portion including a fixing zone of the first anchor strip and fixing said first end of the first surgical tape into tissues of the retropubic space above the endopelvic fascia without penetrating the rectus sheath;

locating a second portion of the first anchor stripthe second end of the first surgical tape alongside the urethra and inserting the second end into the suburethral pressure compartment below the endopelvic fascia;

inserting a second anchor stripthe first end of the second surgical tape behind a second side of the urethra;

locating a first portion including a fixing zone of the second anchor strip and fixing the first end the second surgical tape into the tissues of the retropubic space above the endopelvic fascia without penetrating the rectus sheath; and

locating a second portion of the second anchor stripthe second end of the second surgical tape alongside the urethra and inserting the second end into the suburethral pressure compartment below the endopelvic fascia.

## 34-35. (Canceled)

- 36. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the tape is between approximately 10 to 15 cm in length.
- 37. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the tape is between approximately 4 to 8 cm in length.
- 38. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the first end and second end of the first surgical tape and the second surgical tape each comprise a tissue anchor comprising tooth-like projections
- 39. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the first end and second end of the first surgical tape and the second surgical tape comprise a glue.